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Practitioner's Docket No.: 791_174

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Yasuyuki ISHIHARA

Ser. No.: 09/991,061

Art Unit: 1722

Filed: November 21, 2001

Examiner: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: 3771

For: MOLD FOR MOLDING A TIRE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 11, 2002 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL872579250US.

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

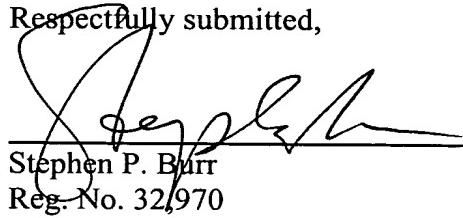
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Reference AA is discussed at page 6, paragraph [0014], of the present specification. Reference AB (EP 0 774 333 B1) corresponds to Reference AA (JP 9-141660).

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,


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